

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 08702

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, NATO
SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA - CONSULTATIONS AT NATO HEADQUARTERS,
SEPTEMBER 9, 1977
SUMMARY: UN EXPERTS MET WITH POLADS SEPTEMBER 9 FOR PRE-
UNGA CONSULTATIONS ON SUCH ISSUES AS SOUTHERN AFRICA,
MIDDLE EAST QUESTIONS, KOREA AND HUMAN RIGHTS. CYPRUS WAS
NOT ON THE AGENDA. WHILE THE DISCUSSION BROKE LITTLE NEW
GROUND, THE CONSULTATION PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A
BROAD AND ACTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AMONG THE ALLIES ON UNGA
DEVELOPMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. SOUTHERN AFRICA: US AND UK REPS TOOK THE LEAD NOTING
THAT THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS ON NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA WAS
UNDER WAY AND EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING A
CLIMATE FAVORABLE TO PURSUIT OF NEGOTIATING GOALS.
CANADIAN AND OTHER REPS COMMENTED ON THE RELATIVELY MILD
CHARACTER OF THE DOCUMENTS ADOPTED AT LAGOS AND THE FACT
THAT THEY DID NOT LINK APARTHEID AND ZIONISM. US REP
STRESSED THAT THE US WOULD SPEAK FORCEFULLY AGAINST
APARTHEID, BUT, THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE US WOULD GO BEYOND
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CONDEMNATIONS AND INTO SPECIFIC ACTIONS WOULD DEPEND ON
FORMULATION OF PROPOSALS AND THE CONTEXT OF NEGOTIATIONS
OVER NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA.

2. MIDDLE EAST: US REP DREW ON TALKING POINTS IN PARA
9(A) OF STATE 205670. IN RESPONSE TO A CANADIAN QUERY
ABOUT US EXPECTATIONS IF GENEVA MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFER-

ENCE WERE RECONVENED, US REP SAID THAT A PRIMARY GOAL WAS TO BRING PARTIES TOGETHER AND THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE AT THIS TIME TO COMMENT ON DURATION OR ANTICIPATED ACCOMPLISHMENT OF CONFERENCE.

3. KOREA: US REP COMMENTED THAT DEBATE OF KOREAN ITEM IS NOT ANTICIPATED SINCE DPRK STATED ITS DECISION NOT TO SEEK INSCRIPTION OF PRO-DPRK ITEM UNLESS PROVOKED BY ROK AND ITS SUPPORTERS.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS: US REP UNDERLINED FIRM US COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND DESIRE TO WORK TO DEVELOP CAPACITY OF UN TO ACT WITH GREATER EFFECTIVENESS IN PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. US THEREFORE LOOKED FOR WAYS TO STRENGTHEN HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY. US COULD SUPPORT PROPOSAL FOR UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND WOULD SEEK AN EFFECTIVE MECHANISM TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM OF TORTURE. THERE WAS BROAD SUPPORT FOR THIS APPROACH. UK REP NOTED DESIRABILITY OF COORDINATING UNGA AND CSCE ACTIVITIES ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

5. CRITICISMS OF NATO: ALLIED REPS NOTED NO NEW ASPECTS TO SUCH CRITICISM.

6. PEACEKEEPING: CANADIAN REP RAISED QUESTION OF UTILITY OF CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF PEACEKEEPING COMMITTEE AND SUPPORTED THESIS THAT ALL PEACEKEEPING EXPENSES SHOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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PROVIDED FOR IN UN BUDGET. ITALIAN, FRG, AND UK REPS ADVISED CAUTION IN BOTH REGARDS. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT REQUIREMENT FOR PROVISION IN UN BUDGET FOR EXPENSES OF PEACEKEEPING FORCES COULD LIMIT FLEXIBILITY IN ESTABLISHING NEEDED FORCES. ITALIAN REP, WHILE RECOGNIZING SLOW PROGRESS IN PEACEKEEPING COMMITTEE, WARNED THAT ABANDONMENT OF PEACEKEEPING COMMITTEE COULD RESULT IN POSSIBLY LESS FRIENDLY FORUM TAKING OVER PEACEKEEPING DISCUSSIONS. NORWEGIAN REP SAID NORWAY HAD STANDING FORCE READY ON SHORT NOTICE FOR PEACEKEEPING TASKS.

7. POSSIBLE SOVIET INITIATIVES: NORWEGIAN, FRG, AND CANADIAN REPS REPORTED THEY HAD NO INDICATIONS OF POSSIBLE SOVIET INITIATIVES AT 32ND UNGA DURING RECENT BILATERAL PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS.

8. CHARTER OF UN AND STRENGTHENING OF ROLE OF UN: ITALIAN REP UNDERLINED NEED TO FOCUS CAREFUL ATTENTION ON THIS ITEM.

9. FRG HOSTAGES ITEM: FRG REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES WANTED PRIMARILY TO GAIN EXTENSION OF MANDATE FOR CONSIDER-

ATION OF FRG HOSTAGES ITEM (BONN 14747). FRG HOPED,
THEREFORE, THAT ITEM WOULD BE TREATED PROCEDURALLY AND
NOT IN A POLITICAL WAY IN COMMITTEE VI AT 32ND UNGA.

10. PUERTO RICO: IN REPLY TO CANADIAN QUESTION, US REP
SAID CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO APPEARED QUITE UNLIKELY
AT 32ND UNGA IN WAKE OF C-24'S DECISION NOT TO VOTE ON
CUBA'S DRAFT RESOLUTION. US REP APPLAUDED EFFORTS OF
VICE CHAIRMAN VRAALSEN (NORWAY) TO GAIN CONSENSUS ON
PUERTO RICO IN C-24.
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